

**AMENDED CLAIMS**

[received by the International Bureau on 13 September 2004 (13.09.04);  
original claims 1-6 replaced by new claims 1-2]

1. Star-shaped conveyor for transporting or taking out empty plastics containers or bottles to or from a machine of a type comprising a plurality of indentations (4) uniformly distributed along the periphery of two spaced apart plates (2 and 3), the vacuum is provided in each indentation capable of holding the empty bottle tightly against the indentation surface for a predetermined circumferential arc, characterized by the fact each indentation is provided with a box element supported by the lower plate (2) defining openings (11), the number of openings (11) being equal to the number of indentations, openings (11) are arranged along a circumference overlaying a slot (12) defined on a cylindrical chamber (14) in which vacuum is created, each box element has a vertical opening (9) made in one (10) of its faces which follows the curvilinear profile of the indentation.
2. Star-shaped conveyor according to the preceding claims, characterized by the fact the slot (12) extends along an arc comprised between 90° and 180° starting from the discharge of an operative machine to the inlet of a conveyor for transporting bottles.